

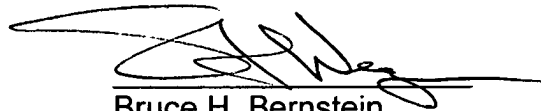
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate any language that might be considered "steps of" or "means plus function" recitations, and to place the claims in better U.S. form. The Abstract has been replaced with a substitute Abstract that does not include reference elements therein. No estoppel should be deemed to be associated with this amendment.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hideki TATEMATSU et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

April 27, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

Steven Wegman
Reg. No. 31,438